

AUTOMATED GEOGRAPHIC REFERENCE CENTER SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET ADJUSTMENT

INFRASTRUCTURE & GENERAL GOVERNMENT STAFF: GARY K. RICKS

ISSUE BRIEF

SUMMARY

The Automated Geographic Reference Center (AGRC) receives a \$300,000 annual appropriation from the General Fund Restricted Statewide Unified E-911 Emergency Service Account. AGRC receives this funding as a matter of statutory authority found in *Utah Code 53-10-605*:

The state's Automated Geographic Reference Center in the Division of Integrated Technology of the Department of Technology Services, [shall receive] an amount equal to 1 cent per month [of the 8 cents total per month] levied on telecommunications service under Section 69-2-5.6 [which] shall be used to enhance and upgrade statewide digital mapping standards.

The \$300,000 annually appropriated to AGRC currently funds 4 FTE plus \$10 to \$15,000 of in-state travel expenses. The major portion of the services performed involves working with local jurisdictions in updating their addressing information for emergency dispatch centers—an activity that 1 FTE does 80 percent of his time out of the office. This service benefits more than just 911 and emergency response—it affects the geo-addressing services to Commerce, Tax, Elections, GOED, and many private entities. Counties and cities in rural areas particularly benefit from AGRC's services as they receive resources to improve their addressing which would not otherwise be possible.

The Enhanced 911 Program in the Department of Public Safety also receives an annual appropriation from this account. This program receives a larger annual appropriation than that of AGRC. In FY 2011, it was appropriated \$3,891,300.

This account has experienced diminishing revenues in recent years, and in FY 2011, both programs were required to lapse a portion of their respective appropriations. AGRC was required to lapse \$104,900 in FY 2011. This reduction impacts AGRC's in-state travel for 911 and requires that 1 FTE be eliminated or re-assigned depending on the funding of other projects in AGRC. The impact of removing an employee in the field means less timely updating/improvements to statewide addresses and less-reliable location services to many government and non-government users.

Recommendation:

The Division of Finance informed the Analyst that the Enhanced 911 Program in the Department of Public Safety has accumulated an uncommitted nonlapsing balance of \$1,200,000. The Analyst recommends that the Infrastructure and General Government Appropriations Subcommittee recommend to the Executive Appropriations Committee that \$104,900 supplemental from this accumulated nonlapsing balance of \$1,200,000 in the Enhanced 911 Program in the Department of Public Safety be transferred in FY 2012.

Going forward the Analyst, DTS, and the Division of Finance will work together to closely monitor this account to ensure that AGRC receives the appropriate funding as established in statute.